

## *News & Notes from the National Institute of Nursing Research: February 2012*

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### **1. Executive Summary of “Science of Compassion” Summit Now Available**

NINR is pleased to publish an executive summary of "The Science of Compassion: Future Directions in End-of-Life and Palliative Care" Summit.

NINR, together with partners from across NIH Institutes, Centers and Offices, convened the three-day national Summit on August 10-12, 2011. The Summit examined the state of research and clinical practice in end-of-life and palliative care (EOL PC) and, with almost 1,000 registrants, provided an opportunity for scientists, health care professionals, and public advocates to come together to catalyze and shape the future research agenda for this critical scientific area.

The Summit served as a significant milestone not only to reflect on past accomplishments, but to address the scientific contributions of one of the most important areas of health care in our Nation today.

To read or download the Summit executive summary, visit: [www.ninr.nih.gov/scienceofcompassion](http://www.ninr.nih.gov/scienceofcompassion).

### **2. NIH Pain Consortium RFP for Centers of Excellence in Pain Education**

The NIH Pain Consortium is encouraging medical, dental, nursing, and pharmacy schools to respond to a new funding opportunity to develop Centers of Excellence in Pain Education (CoEPEs).

On December 30, 2011, a [Request for Proposals \(RFP\) was released](#) on behalf of the Consortium to develop and disseminate pain management curriculum resources for health care professionals and provide leadership for change in pain management education. The NIH Pain Consortium seeks to empower “Pain Champions”—those educators already working to improve pain education—as well as those needing additional resources and support to do so.

CoEPEs will act as hubs for the creation, development, evaluation, integration, promotion, and distribution of pain management curriculum resources, as well as be leaders for change in the pain management education of health professionals nationwide. Each CoEPE will develop and promote high-quality, scientifically reviewed and evaluated educational resources for the teaching of pain management. Each CoEPE will be expected to market its own resources as well as other resources developed through this initiative.

Eligible applicants include accredited medical, dental, nursing, and/or pharmacy professional schools. Collaborations among schools within institutions as well as between different institutions are encouraged, as are inter-professional curriculum resources that promote teamwork among medical, dental, nursing, and/or pharmacy professionals.

Applicants should think creatively about how to successfully integrate new resources on pain management into existing training programs. Collaborations among schools of medicine, dentistry, nursing, and/or pharmacy are encouraged, as are inter-institutional collaborations.

**Proposals are due March 5, 2012.**

For full details on the RFP and a downloadable budget template, visit: [www.altarum.org/project-highlights-pain-education](http://www.altarum.org/project-highlights-pain-education).

**3. HHS Seeks Input on Draft Framework for National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is seeking input on [the draft framework for the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease](#). The draft framework is structured around five ambitious goals:

- Prevent and Effectively Treat Alzheimer's Disease by 2025.
- Optimize Care Quality and Efficiency.
- Expand Patient and Family Support.
- Enhance Public Awareness and Engagement.
- Track Progress and Drive Improvement.

HHS is seeking input on the draft framework including goals and strategies and additional ideas that would inform the development of an action plan.

**HHS will be collecting input through February 8, 2012.**

To access the draft framework, visit: [aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/Framework-Draft.shtml](http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/Framework-Draft.shtml).

Please email comments to [NAPA@hhs.gov](mailto:NAPA@hhs.gov). All comments will be shared with the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services.

**4. Dr. Marjana Tomic-Canic to Speak at NIH Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series**

NINR-supported researcher Dr. Marjana Tomic-Canic will present “Wizardry of Tissue Repair and Regeneration: A Tale of Skin Cells When Their Magic Is All but Gone” as part of the NIH Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (WALS) on March 7 at 3 p.m. in the NIH Clinical Center’s Masur Auditorium.

Dr. Tomic-Canic is a professor of Dermatology and a graduate faculty member of the Program in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Miami (UM) Miller School of Medicine. She is also director of the UM Wound Healing and Regenerative Medicine Research Program. Dr. Tomic-Canic received her doctoral and postdoctoral training at the NYU School of Medicine before joining the faculty there. As faculty of the Cornell University Weill Medical College, she directed the Tissue Repair Program at the Hospital for Special Surgery’s Department of Tissue Engineering, Regeneration, and Repair.

Dr. Tomic-Canic’s current research focus is the molecular and cellular mechanisms of wound healing, including human and diabetic models of wound healing, wound genomics analyses, generating primary cells from patients’ wound biopsies, local sustained gene delivery, cellular assays of wound healing, and the histology and immunohistochemistry of skin. She has been continuously funded by the NIH for more than 10 years. Dr. Tomic-Canic is a member of the Society of Investigative Dermatology, the

Association of Advanced Wound Care, American Diabetes Association, New York Academy of Sciences, American Association of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Wound Healing Society and serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* and the *Journal of Investigative Dermatology*.

### **5. New Funding Opportunity Announcement: Palliative Care and End-of-Life in People Living with HIV/AIDS (R01)**

A new NINR Funding Opportunity Announcement solicits research focused on current palliative care (PC) and end-of-life (EOL) needs in people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA).

Highly active antiretroviral treatment has prolonged the lives of PLWHA leading to increasing numbers of people in the later stages of disease in need of quality PC and EOL support. This is particularly important in populations where HIV/AIDS is most prevalent and mortality from HIV/AIDS is the highest.

The objectives of this research initiative include but are not limited to:

- Distinguish social constructs and other factors which reduce the quality of life for PLWHA due to deficits in palliative and end-of-life care.
- Identify predictors of mortality and prognostic markers in patients with advanced HIV disease and related comorbidities.
- Identify factors which influence decision making with respect to palliative care and end-of-life for PLWHA.
- Explore unique needs by ethno cultural background, age or medically underserved group status.
- Ascertain critical mechanisms required for integration of palliative and end-of-life care into standard medical care for PLWHA.
- Design and implementation of community-based integrative care models which address progressive medical, psychosocial, palliative care and end-of-life needs for HIV/AIDS patients, particularly for the most vulnerable populations of PLWHA.
- Identify best approaches for standard of care in palliative and end-of-life support for PLWHA.
- Conduct comparative effectiveness studies for integrative palliative and end-of-life interventions for PLWHA.

**Letter of Intent Receipt Date:** February 22, 2012

**Application Due Date:** March 22, 2012

For more information: [grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NR-12-004.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NR-12-004.html).

### **6. Two New Funding Opportunities: Health Care Systems Research Collaboratory Program**

The NIH Common Fund has issued two new Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) for the [Health Care Systems \(HCS\) Research Collaboratory program](#). The overall goal of this program is to strengthen the national capacity to implement cost-effective, large-scale research studies that engage health care delivery organizations as research partners.

These FOAs solicit applications for a Coordinating Center ([RFA-RM-11-021](#)) and Pragmatic Trials Demonstration Projects ([RFA-RM-12-002](#)).

The Coordinating Center will:

- Develop, adapt, and adopt technical and policy guidelines and best practices for the effective conduct of research studies in partnership with health care systems,
- Work collaboratively with each Demonstration Project team, including their partnering health care systems, to develop and test an implementation plan for the proposed Demonstration Projects while providing technical, design, and coordination support; and
- Disseminate widely Collaboratory endorsed policies and practices and lessons learned in the Demonstration Projects to inform best practices for broad participation of health care systems and their patients, practitioners, and staff in research studies to improve health and care delivery.

The Coordinating Center will also serve as the central resource for the activities of the HCS Research Collaboratory program, including providing administrative support for the Steering Committee and its subcommittees.

**Coordinating Center letters of intent are due March 27, 2012.**  
**The application receipt date is April 27, 2012.**

Demonstration Projects will conduct research studies in partnerships with health care delivery systems; and make available data, tools and resources from these and other projects to facilitate a broadened base of research partnerships with Health Care Systems.

**Pragmatic Trials Demonstration Projects letters of intent are due April 2, 2012.**  
**The application receipt date is May 2, 2012.**

For more information: [commonfund.nih.gov/hcscollaboratory](http://commonfund.nih.gov/hcscollaboratory).

## **7. 2012 NINR Summer Genetics Institute: June 4-29, New Application Deadline – April 6**

The 2012 NINR Summer Genetics Institute (SGI) will be held from June 4th through 29th on the NIH Campus in Bethesda, Maryland.

**The application period for the 2012 SGI opens on February 1 and will close on April 6.**

The SGI is a tuition-free, one-month, intensive research training program that provides participants with a foundation in molecular genetics appropriate for use in research and clinical practice. The program seeks to increase the research capability among graduate students and faculty and to develop and expand clinical practice in genetics among clinicians. Administered by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) as one of its Specialty Bio-Trac programs, the SGI features lectures and hands-on laboratory training. On completion of the program, participants receive eight hours of graduate-level college credit from FAES.

More than 200 SGI graduates are making a difference in communities across the country -- building programs of nursing research in genetics; disseminating the results of genetics-related research in peer-

reviewed scientific publications and at scientific conferences; and integrating genetics content in nursing school curricula and practice.

Graduate students, faculty, and clinicians who are citizens or permanent U.S. residents may apply. Applicants should demonstrate potential for highly productive research or a clinical career.

For more information on the SGI, please send an email to [ninrsgi@mail.nih.gov](mailto:ninrsgi@mail.nih.gov) or visit [www.ninr.nih.gov/sgi](http://www.ninr.nih.gov/sgi).

## **8. Save the Date: NINR's Fatigue/Sleep Methodologies Boot Camp: July 23-27, 2012**

Please save the date this summer for a new offering in the NINR Symptom Research Methodologies Series: the NINR Fatigue/Sleep Methodologies Boot Camp, to be held July 23-27, 2012 on the NIH Campus.

The one-week intensive research training course is sponsored by NINR and administered by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) as one of the Bio-Trac programs. It is intended to provide a foundation in fatigue and sleep research methodology for graduate students and faculty. The course will feature lectures by distinguished guest speakers, classroom discussion, and laboratory training. This new boot camp course will cover a number of topics relevant to fatigue and sleep research including fatigue/sleep measurement, treatments, and genetics. The speakers in this course will include nationally and internationally known fatigue and sleep scientists from various institutions including the NIH and universities across the United States.

The course is provided by NINR at no cost. However, attendees are required to pay for housing, food, and transportation expenses incurred during program participation.

Graduate students, faculty, and clinicians who are citizens or permanent U.S. residents may apply. Applicants should demonstrate potential for productive research careers.

The Fatigue/Sleep Boot Camp will be held Monday, July 23, to Friday, July 27, 2012. Classes will begin daily at 8:30 am and adjourn at or before 5:30 pm.

### **Location:**

NIH Campus  
Building 60 (The Cloisters)  
Bethesda, MD

For more information, visit [www.ninr.nih.gov/bootcamp](http://www.ninr.nih.gov/bootcamp) or send an email with "Boot Camp" in the subject line to [NINRIRPtraining@mail.nih.gov](mailto:NINRIRPtraining@mail.nih.gov).

## **9. Current Funding Opportunity Announcements and Notices**

All current NINR Funding Opportunity Announcements, including Requests for Applications (RFAs) and Program Announcements (PAs), as well as Notices of interest from NIH, are available on the NINR website at [www.ninr.nih.gov/ResearchAndFunding/DEA/OEP/FundingOpportunities/default.htm](http://www.ninr.nih.gov/ResearchAndFunding/DEA/OEP/FundingOpportunities/default.htm).

These items can also be found in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts:  
[grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html).